

**Information Management Section  
IT Services Branch**

9 February 2007

Dear XXXX

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: XXXX**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 13/01/2007, which was received by Greater Manchester Police on 15/01/2007 for the following information:

- Question 1 The number of police hours (or days which ever is applicable) lost through sickness in the last three years. I am referring to sickness that is recorded as work related stress and traumatic stress and this is with respect to all operational officers and not civilian staff.
- Question 2 I would also like to know your forces policy on the treatment of officers affected by work related stress and traumatic stress.
- Question 3 Finally, does your force's training department have any practical/theory based sessions dealing with stress, trauma, 'Traumatic Stress' and how to deal with it? Do these sessions include information on how stress and trauma can manifest itself e.g. perceptual distortion and post critical incident amnesia? If not are there any plans to implement such courses similar to this?

Result Of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that some of the information you have requested is held by Greater Manchester Police.

Question 1. We cannot provide the requested information, when defining reasons for absence our system do not make the differentiation from other causes of sickness.

We have a classification – psychological illness, this cannot be read as work related stress, as absence due to stress can have number of causes. GMP uses the Dorset 12 absence categorisation (see table below).

<b>Dorset 12 Sickness Categories</b>
Cardiac/Circulatory
Digestive Order
Ear/Eye Problems
Genito-Urinary
Headache/Migraine
Infectious Diseases
Miscellaneous
Musculo/Skeletal
Nervous System Disorders
Psychological Disorder
Respiratory Conditions
Skin

Question 2. Please see enclosed information. However to provide assistance under s16 of the Act, the policy can also be retrieved via the following link.  
[http://www.gmp.police.uk/mainsite/0/3BBCF0CC6B7F24BC80257104004EC615/\\$file/StrategyToReduceStressIntheWorkplace.pdf](http://www.gmp.police.uk/mainsite/0/3BBCF0CC6B7F24BC80257104004EC615/$file/StrategyToReduceStressIntheWorkplace.pdf)

Question 3. We cover psychological trauma in our presentations on stress.

Complaint Rights

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet, which details your right of complaint.

Yours sincerely,